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Making sense of the world



THE WEEK

Junior

THE BEST
MAGAZINE FOR
CURIOUS
KIDS

BIGGEST BEAR

Grazer is named the wow-worthy winner of Fat Bear Week p5

"I'd like to
thank all my
fans."





This week's big news

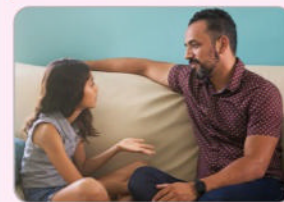
DID YOU KNOW?

The Middle East has one of the youngest populations in the world, with 30% of people between ages 15 and 29.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrives in Israel.



If you feel worried



It's understandable that you might feel upset about what's happening in the Middle East. If you do, talk with a trusted adult, share your feelings, and ask questions about things you're concerned about. Limit your exposure to news, and continue to do things you enjoy. Talk to your family about what you can do to help others.

War continues in Middle East

Fighting continued in the Middle East for a second week. The conflict is affecting millions of people in Israel and the Gaza Strip. As thousands of people have gathered across the US and the world to stage protests, mourn victims, and hold vigils, the US and other countries have stepped in to try to prevent the war from escalating further.

How did the fighting start?

On October 7, a Palestinian group called Hamas waged a violent terrorist attack on Israel. Hamas and Israel have fought many times before, due to disputes over who controls certain areas of land in the region. Their most recent conflict was in 2021, though the current outbreak of violence is the worst in many years. At least 1,400 people in Israel, including 30 Americans, were killed in their homes and communities, and 3,900 were wounded. Hamas took about 200 people hostage, and many more people are missing. In response, Israel vowed to eliminate Hamas and began firing missiles into Gaza, a densely populated territory of more than 2 million people that is controlled by Hamas. More than 3,000 Palestinians have been killed and more than 10,800 injured, according to

Palestinian officials. Israel declared a "complete siege" of Gaza, cutting off all supplies.

What is happening now?

Israel continues to bomb Gaza in an effort to weaken Hamas, and Hamas continues to aim airstrikes at Israel. The United Nations (UN, 193 nations working together), the World Health Organization, and many world leaders said Gaza is facing a dire humanitarian crisis. People are running out of food, water, fuel, and other essentials, and hospitals are unable to treat patients without electricity or medicine. On October 12, Israel ordered more than one million residents of northern Gaza to evacuate before it attacked the area. Hamas told people not to leave, but as of October 17, at least 600,000 people had fled south and were living in emergency shelters, schools, and outdoors. The only existing route in or out of Gaza is the Rafah Crossing to Egypt, which is closed.



How has the US reacted?

The US and many other countries said they strongly support Israel and are also concerned for people in Gaza. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and several members of Congress went to Israel to speak with its leaders, and Blinken also

met with leaders of six nearby Arab nations to discuss the situation. When *The Week Junior* went to press on October 17, the US and Israel were trying to reach an agreement to let humanitarian aid into Gaza and establish "safe zones" for people within the territory. The US and other nations were also working to evacuate their own citizens from the region. The US sent two large warships to the Mediterranean Sea to help Israel protect itself.

Why is the US involved?

The US is playing a central role in the current conflict because the US and Israel are strong allies. The US recognized Israel on the day it was established as a Jewish state in 1948, and Israel is an important strategic partner to the US in the Middle East. America has the largest Jewish population in the world outside Israel.

What will happen next?

Israel said it was preparing for a broader attack on Gaza. In what some experts are calling an "extraordinary" move, President Joe Biden planned to travel to Israel to meet with leaders on October 18, then to meet with the heads of Arab nations. The White House said Biden will show support for Israel while also pushing for a resolution to the conflict and the delivery of humanitarian aid. António Guterres, head of the UN, is set to travel to the region the following day to do the same.

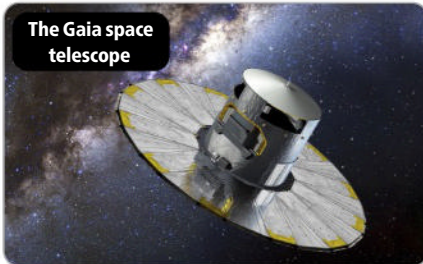


Space telescope reveals new stars

A powerful space telescope has sent a “goldmine” of new information back to Earth, according to the European Space Agency (ESA), which is overseeing the mission. The Gaia telescope was launched in 2013. Its goal is to create a highly detailed three-dimensional map of almost 2 billion objects in the sky in our Milky Way galaxy and beyond.

In the latest data, Gaia revealed the presence of more than 500,000 new stars. It also detected more than 380 new gravitationally lensed quasars, which are extremely distant lights created by active black holes. Gaia also tracked the positions of more than 150,000 asteroids (space rocks) within the solar system.

Gaia was programmed to examine stars about 14 times per year, logging their positions, distances, movements, and changes in brightness. But the latest information confirmed that it has done far more than it was expected to do. Scientists say Gaia will eventually help answer questions about the origins of the galaxy.



The Gaia space telescope



Flag football



Squash

OLYMPIC HISTORY
The modern Olympic Games began in 1896 with 241 athletes from 14 nations, including the US.

Five sports added to Olympics

On October 16, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), which oversees the global competition, announced five new sports for the 2028 Summer Olympics and Paralympics in Los Angeles, California. The sports are flag football, baseball/softball, cricket, lacrosse, and squash. They will feature men's and women's teams.

Flag football, a non-contact version of American football, and squash, a racket sport played on a walled court, have never been part of the Games. Cricket, a bat and ball sport that originated in England, was played at the 1900 Paris Summer Olympics and is one of the most watched sports in the world. Baseball and softball were medal events in the 1990s but were removed after the 2008 Beijing Games. Lacrosse, which had its start with Native

Americans, was played at the 1904 and 1908 Olympics. In recent years, its popularity has increased in the US and around the world.

Events are often added to or removed from the Games, which occur every four years. Surfing, sport climbing, breakdancing, and skateboarding were added to the 2020 Tokyo Games, but only breakdancing is included in the 2024 Paris Games.

The IOC considers many factors when approving a new sport, including its fan base, gender equality, and importance to today's youth. Casey Wasserman, head of the organizing committee for the Los Angeles Games, said the five sports are “relevant, innovative, and community-based, played in backyards, schoolyards, community centers, stadiums, and parks across the US and the globe.”



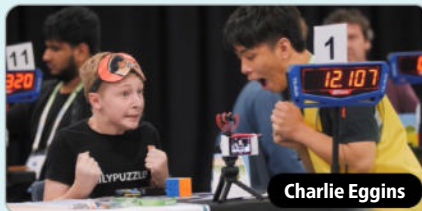
IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

AN EPIC LITTER

A 3-year-old Dachshund in the UK gave birth to 11 puppies, which may be the largest litter of the breed ever born. Winnie's owner called her “a natural” at taking care of her pups. “She's the best mum ever,” she said.



Some of the pups



Charlie Eggins

SPEEDY SOLVING

Charlie Eggins, age 14, set a new world record for solving a 3x3x3 Rubik's Cube while blindfolded. Eggins, who is from Australia, has been a speedcuber for four years. He finished the puzzle in 12.10 seconds, beating the previous record by .68 seconds. “I still can't believe it,” he said.

BEING A HISTORY BUFF

Paul Durietz teaches history — and makes it too. Durietz, age 76, achieved a world record for the longest career as a social studies teacher after 53 years at the same Illinois middle school. He credits his father for his interest in the subject and has no plans to retire yet. “Keep working on what you love to do in life,” Durietz said.



Paul Durietz



National news

DID YOU KNOW?

The border between the US and Mexico stretches nearly 2,000 miles.



A section of the wall between the US and Mexico

Power of the President



Presidents have used executive orders in different ways. George Washington (1789–1797) used an order to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. Abraham Lincoln (1861–1865) proclaimed an end to slavery with one, and Harry Truman (shown above, 1945–1953) issued one to end racial segregation in the military.

Construction of border wall to begin

President Joe Biden has announced that the US will build up to 20 miles of a wall in Texas along the border with Mexico. The construction will extend sections of a wall covering about 706 miles, which are already there to stop illegal immigration (when people enter a country without permission).

What happened?

Alejandro Mayorkas, the secretary of homeland security, said the wall will be built along the Rio Grande Valley in Starr County, Texas. The 20-mile wall had previously been authorized by President Donald Trump, and Congress had set money aside to build it in 2019. Reviews and approvals by the US government delayed construction of the wall, and Biden issued an executive order on October 5 to bypass 26 federal laws to allow

work to begin. An executive order is an action taken by a President that has the force of law.

Why was the decision made?

Mayorkas said barriers are needed to reduce illegal immigration. About 245,000 people have tried to cross into the US through the Rio Grande Valley in 2023, more than in recent years. Biden had previously opposed wall construction and said he would still prefer to address the problem another way. But he hasn't been able to convince Congress to shift the funds to another project, so he moved forward with the wall instead of losing the money.

How did people react?

Colin Allred, a Democrat from Texas in the House of Representatives (one half of Congress), said the

wall extension was "a necessary step" to help Texas manage a surge in people crossing the border into its cities. Opponents said the wall is ineffective because people will find a way around it and that changes to the nation's immigration system should be made instead. Environmental advocates also stated concerns that building the wall could disrupt the habitats of plants and animals living there.

What will happen next?

The US will begin spending the nearly \$200 million set aside to build the wall. The Biden administration said it will also continue to ask Congress to fund other measures that might reduce illegal immigration, such as building new surveillance towers on the border that could be used to spot people from nearly 10 miles away.



WORD OF THE WEEK

LACROSSE

The game of lacrosse was originally played by Indigenous peoples in North America. It became particularly popular in Canada, and from there it spread to other countries. The sport takes its name from the long-handled sticks used to play the game: *La crosse* is French for "the crooked stick."

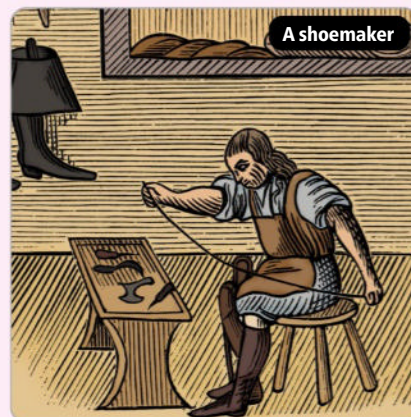


THE WEEK IN HISTORY

October 18, 1648

Shoemakers form labor union

On October 18, 1648, shoemakers (then called "shoomakers") in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, which later became part of the US, formed the first labor union. Their goal was to improve the quality of shoes and eliminate poor craftsmanship by workers. Today, about 14.3 million Americans belong to labor unions, which advocate for better working conditions and pay for their members.



A shoemaker



Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Candidate announces change

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has announced that he will run for President in next year's election as an independent (not part of a registered political party). Kennedy, a lawyer, had said previously that he would run as a Democrat, which meant he would challenge Joe Biden for that party's nomination. Now Kennedy's intention is to face the Democratic and Republican nominees, as well as any other independents, in the election on November 5, 2024.



Peeps will phase out Red Dye No. 3.

California bans food chemicals

California has banned the use of four additives, including Red Dye No. 3, in foods sold there. The additives, which have been linked to health problems and are outlawed in Canada and other countries, are used to make candy and other packaged foods more colorful or to extend their shelf life. The law could change the way about 12,000 products are made. Manufacturers have until 2027 to comply.



The big winner

Minnesota pumpkin sets record

At 2,749 pounds, a gourd weighing as much as three horses set a record for the heaviest pumpkin at the World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off in California. It was grown by Travis Gienger, a Minnesota teacher (in orange above), who comes from a family of pumpkin growers and watered the pumpkin 12 times a day. "I put in the work so that I can put a smile on people's faces," Gienger said.



128 "Grazer" could weigh about 700 to 800 pounds.

A LEGEND AMONG BEARS
A contender named 480 "Otis" has been crowned the winner of Fat Bear Week four times—more than any other bear.

Fat Bear Week winner is named

Fat Bear Week 2023 wrapped up on October 10, with a colossal competitor named 128 "Grazer" taking this year's title. Fat Bear Week is an annual event held at Katmai National Park in Alaska to celebrate the park's brown bears as they put on weight before they hibernate (go into a very deep sleep) during the winter.

While hibernating, bears can lose up to one third of their body weight because they do not eat or drink for about five months. This means that eating salmon, berries, and grasses to gain weight before hibernation is essential to their survival. During Fat Bear Week, fans go online to vote for the bulkiest bears, who compete against each other in a bracket, over the course of the week.

Grazer, a female and first-time champion, triumphed over a field of 11 other bears, securing 108,321 votes in the final round. The runner-up, a male named 32 "Chunk," received about 23,000 votes. Overall, 1,382,783 votes were

cast this year, a new record for the event, which began as Fat Bear Tuesday in 2014.

Before Fat Bear Week kicked off, the Fat Bear Junior contest was held in September. In this event, voters choose the largest cub and the winner competes in Fat Bear Week. This year's champion was 806 "Spring Cub," a first-year cub who beat out older cubs. He advanced to the semifinals of

Fat Bear Week before falling to Chunk.

With light brown fur, Grazer is considered a top salmon catcher in the park, able to chase down fish in the water or patiently wait for them. She has raised two litters of cubs and is known for protecting them by confronting larger adult male bears. She was not caring for any cubs this year, which may have given her more time to eat.



806 "Spring Cub" won Fat Bear Junior.

"Though unaware of her title in this imaginary contest, her success is real!" Katmai National Park said of Grazer. "For bears, fat equals success, and she's set up well for winter."

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Chicken leads police officer on chase in Arkansas" K8 ABC





Around the world



The Ballon de Paris measures air quality.



Paris, France

Air purifiers to help Olympic athletes

Organizers of the 2024 Paris Olympics are setting up machines to purify the city's air and help athletes breathe more easily. The machines work by sucking in polluted air and removing dangerous fine particles. A test conducted on a school playground in June found that the machines removed more than a third of air pollution in the surrounding area. They will be used in the Olympic Village, which houses the athletes competing.



A cruise ship in Barcelona



Barcelona, Spain

Cruise ships banned from city center

Starting on October 22, Barcelona will officially ban cruise ships from docking at a pier near the city center to reduce overcrowding. The move affects about 340 cruise dockings a year, which had brought thousands of tourists to Barcelona at once. The city plans to convert the docking area into public space for local residents, and cruise ships will be redirected to ports that are farther away from urban areas.



The Stella Terra



Morocco

Students build off-road solar car

A solar-powered car (one that is powered by the Sun) has completed a 620-mile test drive over rugged terrain in Morocco. Students at a university in the Netherlands designed the vehicle, named the Stella Terra, which captures energy with solar panels on the car's roof. The students said it is the first off-road car to be driven long distances using the Sun's energy without recharging.



Memmingen, Germany

Cat honored with statue

A bronze statue honoring a local cat who died earlier this year was unveiled in the town of Memmingen. Chicco the cat, who had owners and wore a collar, was a popular sight in town, curling up on benches and stretching out in store windows. Artist Cornelia Brader, who made the statue, said the friendly feline was "a beautiful cat."



A statue of Chicco



Lake Puraquequara, Brazil

"Floating" village stranded

A village that typically floats on water has been left stranded after Lake Puraquequara, in the Amazon rainforest, dried up following a severe drought (long period without rain). The buildings are designed to sit above water level and be reachable by boat. But without enough water, the village is now stuck in mud. The drought extends to a larger area of the Amazon, affecting more than 300,000 people.



Homes stuck in the lakebed

ALAMY (4); GETTY IMAGES (2); BALLON DE PARIS GENERALI; STE/BART VAN OVERBEKE; AP; SHUTTERSTOCK

Around the world



The Civic Coalition leader, Donald Tusk



Poland Government set for change

The Law and Justice Party (shortened to PiS in Polish), which has ruled Poland for eight years, is unlikely to be able to continue in power. Although PiS won the most members of parliament (government) in a recent election, a rival party named the Civic Coalition is planning to join forces with other parties to take control.

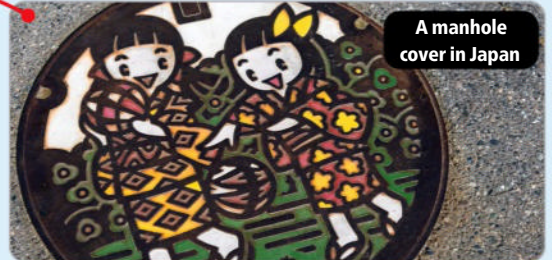


Children in Herat



Herat, Afghanistan Area hit by fourth earthquake

On October 15, Afghanistan experienced its fourth major earthquake in just over a week. Nearly 20,000 people in the region outside the city of Herat have been affected by the powerful earthquakes, which have killed more than 1,300 people and destroyed many homes. The US is providing \$12 million in humanitarian assistance to help meet urgent needs, including food, shelter, and blankets.



A manhole cover in Japan



Japan Artistic manhole covers go on sale

Kyoto is the latest Japanese city to put its decorated manhole covers up for sale. Considered a collector's item, each cast-iron cover has art depicting festivals, landmarks, and famous people. Cover collectors, nicknamed "manholers," can buy covers dating to the 1970s for about \$20 each. Kyoto has nearly 160,000 covers on its streets, and about 1,500 are replaced every year. The cities of Maebashi and Tokorozawa have also sold manhole covers.



Cheng Lei



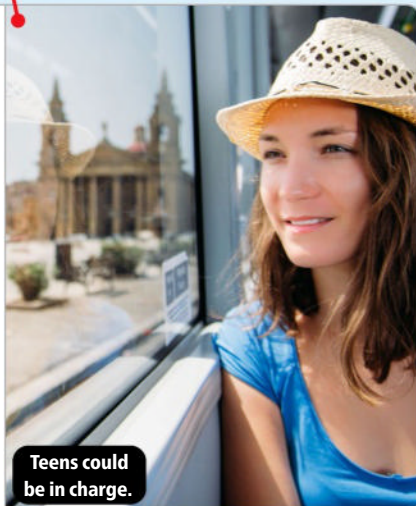
Australia Journalist is released from prison

An Australian journalist has returned home after more than three years of being held prisoner in China. Cheng Lei was arrested in 2020 while working at a TV station run by the Chinese government. She was later accused of sharing government secrets. After reuniting with her family, she said there were hugs and tears "holding my kids in the spring sunshine."



Valletta, Malta Teens for mayor?

The government in Malta has announced plans that would allow 16-year-olds to be elected as mayors or deputy mayors. A mayor is in charge of local councils, which organize services such as trash collection. People in Malta who are 16 and over can already run to be council members in their towns, but they cannot become mayors. In an online poll, 97% of people in the island country said they are against the plan.



Teens could be in charge.



The big debate

Should all cars have to be electric?

Some people want to go full speed ahead with the developing technology.

What you need to know

- A fully electric vehicle (EV) runs on an electric motor that's powered by a rechargeable battery.
- A gasoline- or diesel-powered car runs on fossil fuels. Fossil fuels emit greenhouse gases, which get trapped in Earth's atmosphere and cause the planet to warm up.
- A hybrid vehicle switches back and forth from gas to electric power.
- Many automakers such as General Motors and Honda have promised to sell only EVs by the 2030s and 2040s.

DID YOU KNOW?
The first electric car in the US was designed by William Morrison in Iowa and hit the road in 1890.



Imagine a world with only electric cars on the road. Instead of taking the nearest exit to a gas station and pumping your car full of gas, you'd pull in to an EV charging hub and plug in your car, just like you do a laptop or phone. Maybe you would even travel on an electric road that charges your car as you drive. This day might come sooner than you think, with some states banning the sale of new gas-powered cars in coming years and carmakers phasing out traditional vehicles. But some people argue that going all electric won't help slow climate change and might, in fact, create new problems. What do you think? Should all cars have to be electric?

Yes—we have to start somewhere

More than 91% of Americans own at least one car, and passenger vehicles contribute 15% of global emissions of greenhouse gases every year. EVs are kinder to the environment and produce few—or no—emissions. EV batteries use materials that need to be mined from the earth and the batteries need frequent charging, which uses electricity. But even so, the environmental impact of EVs is still less than that of a gas-powered vehicle. And carmakers are finding greener ways of making and recharging the batteries, like solar and hydro power. As the technology improves, EVs will only become more beneficial for the environment.

No—that creates different problems

EVs are inconvenient. Charging takes longer than pumping gas—if you can find a charging station, that is. There are more than 50,000 of them across the US, with more to come, but it's not enough. If your battery dies and there's no charger nearby, you're stranded. Besides, charging often requires electricity that's generated using fossil fuels. This defeats the purpose of having an electric car. And EV battery production requires precious minerals like lithium and cobalt, which aren't always obtained in a sustainable way. Until those issues are solved, we should focus on other approaches, like urging people to use public transportation.

YES

Three reasons why all cars should have to be electric

- 1 Electric cars produce fewer emissions than gasoline-powered vehicles.
- 2 Though producing EVs uses fossil fuels and other resources, they're still more efficient than gas-powered cars.
- 3 Carmakers are finding greener ways to make and charge EV batteries, and the technology is only improving.

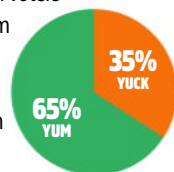
NO

Three reasons why all cars should not have to be electric

- 1 There aren't enough charging stations yet, and EV drivers can get stranded if they can't find one.
- 2 EVs still use fossil fuels and rare materials, which defeats the whole purpose.
- 3 We should focus on solutions like public transportation so there are fewer cars on the road to begin with.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if candy corn is yum or yuck. Nearly two thirds of voters are on Team Yum, while about one third are on Team Yuck.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think all cars should have to be electric, or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.



Racing to his dreams

Noah Lyles, the fastest man in the world, has no plans of slowing down.

After winning the 100-meter dash at the 2023 World Athletics Championships in August, 26-year-old sprinter Noah Lyles earned the title of “World’s Fastest Man.” Now he has his sights set on winning more medals at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Lyles, the son of two former runners, grew up in Alexandria, Virginia. He began competing as a sprinter as a teenager and dreamed of going to the Olympics. He tried for a spot on the US Olympic team in 2016 but did not qualify. In 2021, he made the US team for the Tokyo Games and won a bronze medal in the 200-meter race.

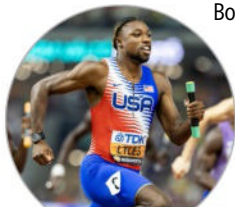
Lyles has been compared to legendary Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt, who has also held the title of “World’s Fastest Man.” Bolt won the 100-meter and 200-meter races at the World Championships and still holds the

record in the 200-meter with a time of 19.19 seconds, set in 2009. Lyles’ best time for that race is 19.31, and he said his goal is to run it in 19.10 seconds, which would break Bolt’s record. Lyles told *The Week Junior* that he did not view top runners like

Bolt as idols while growing up. “I believed in myself and in learning something from different people,” he said.

After his win at Worlds, Lyles said he felt that his years of training and patience have finally paid off. In Paris next year, Lyles hopes to win

more golds. “If I got three gold medals at the World Championships, it’s time to get three gold medals at the Olympics,” he said. His other goal is to make track and field more popular to watch. “I’m trying to make sure that everybody comes and enjoys the sport,” he said.



Lyles competing at Worlds



Noah Lyles

MANY TALENTS

Runner Noah Lyles is also a music artist and rapper who released his first full-length album in 2020.

Making joyful music

Megan Piphus, *Sesame Street*’s first Black female puppeteer, has released her debut children’s album, *Spaceships & Dreams*. The album, produced with award-winning musicians Sir the Baptist and Bootsy Collins, tells the story of a teacher who is putting on a talent show to bring her community together. Growing up, Piphus traveled across the US performing ventriloquism (a type of puppeteering) at schools and churches. Now a mother of two, she said she wanted to create an album that “the whole fam can vibe to.”



Megan Piphus



Ed Young

Author remembered

Award-winning author and illustrator Ed Young died on September 29 at age 91. Young grew up in a coal-mining town in China and moved to the US at age 19. In a career spanning nearly 60 years, he illustrated about 100 books and was best known for incorporating Chinese painting methods and stories into his folk and fairy-tale books. Three of his books, including *Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China*, were awarded Caldecott Medals (a top US honor for children’s literature). Young once said of his work, “The story has to be exciting and a moving experience for a child.”

OVERHEARD

“”



“I like learning new things.”

Amy Schneider, who has the second-longest winning streak in *Jeopardy!*’s 40-year history, on how her interest in trivia knowledge began at a young age



Animals and the environment

DID YOU KNOW?

Humans have introduced more than 37,000 non-native species to places around the world.



Water hyacinths grow out of control in Bangladesh.

Fire ants in Europe

An invasive species of ant has been seen in Europe for the first time. Nearly 90 nests of the red fire ant, which is originally from South America, were found near Syracuse, Italy. The ants may have arrived aboard a ship. They have a painful sting, damage crops, and can be dangerous to other insects.



A fire ant

New report on invasive species

Every country on every continent across the world, including Antarctica, is dealing with the destructive and expensive impact of invasive species, according to a new report.

An invasive species is an animal or plant that is introduced to a new environment—either accidentally or on purpose—and ends up having a negative effect on nature or people. The new report on these species was compiled by the United Nations (UN, a group of 193 countries working for peace and cooperation). Experts from 49 countries concluded that invasive species cost the world more than \$423 billion every year. They said that the most affected

regions were North and South America, followed by Europe and Central Asia.

These species can cause many kinds of problems. Non-native plants can grow out of control, and non-native animals can spread disease or prey on local species. Invasive brown tree snakes killed entire bird populations on the Pacific island of Guam. On the US mainland, zebra and quagga mussels have overtaken lakes, rivers, and bays, and spotted lanternflies have been feeding on and destroying trees of more than 70 species.

The study revealed the world's most

commonly occurring invasive species. These include the black rat, which is thought to have originated in Asia, and the water hyacinth, an aquatic plant from South America. In the water hyacinth's native habitat, some types of insects eat it and keep it under control, but in other parts of the world nothing eats it. It grows very quickly and strongly on the surface of water and blocks out the sunlight that other plants and animals below it need to survive.

Not all invasive species are harmful. In New Zealand, for example, the brown trout attracts fishing tourism and is a source of food. But for those species that could cause trouble, prevention is the best and least expensive way to deal with the problem, said Anibal Pauchard, a professor who worked on the UN report. This means more tightly controlling what people



A black rat



PLACE OF THE WEEK

Redwood Forest, California

Redwood is a group of national and state parks that are home to the tallest trees on Earth. Some of them grow more than 350 feet high and can weigh 2.7 million pounds. The trees are so wide that it can take 15 people to make a circle around one. Such immense growth is possible because the trees live in an area of Northern California that has plenty of rain, rich soil, and a moderate climate (not too hot or too cold). Elk, bats, and birds are found here. The oldest Redwood tree in the national park is 2,520 years old. Find out more at nps.gov/redw.



Seven elk herds live in the parks.



THREE COLORS

Seaweed species are classified into three groups: red, brown, and green.

Hundreds of humpback whales have been seen "kelping."

Seaweed playtime keeps whales healthy

Scientists in Australia have discovered why many species of whales enjoy playing with seaweed or wearing it like a hat. It's not just for fun, they said—these practices also have health benefits.

Whales around the world have been observed rolling in clumps of seaweed and tossing the plants onto their head or rostrum (snout), sometimes for up to an hour at a time. Experts previously thought this behavior, known as "kelping," was simply playful. They now know it serves another purpose for the whales.

After studying interactions between whales and seaweed, experts concluded that kelping seems to help whales stay healthy. Sturdy brown seaweed, which has bacteria-fighting properties, can help the animals scrub their skin clean, scratch an itch, or get rid of pests such as whale lice.

Scientists said this might be an example of animals using objects from their environment, which has not often been seen in whales. Researcher Jan-Olaf Meynecke said, "This behavior might be more common than previously thought."

Animal of the week

Andean bear



Oberon, a 10-year-old male Andean bear, has arrived at Chester Zoo in the UK as part of a breeding program to boost the rare species' population. He will be introduced to Pacha, a female bear who could become his future mate.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 20 to 38 years in human care
- **HABITAT:** The Andes mountains in South America
- **DIET:** Mostly plants, honey, snails, and insects
- **SIZE:** 4 to 6 feet long, 2 to 3 feet tall
- **FUN FACT:** These animals, also called spectacled bears, inspired the character Paddington Bear.



Good week / Bad week



Sea lions

The city of San Diego, California, is closing visitor access to two seaside areas where sea lions breed. This will protect the animals from people, who have sometimes moved too close while trying to take photos or interact with sea lion pups.



A puma

Big cats in Brazil

Jaguars and pumas in Brazil's Caatinga region are losing their habitat to wind farms. *The Wall Street Journal* reported that windmills with 150-foot blades are scaring the big cats away from water sources and toward traps in nearby villages.



"Why do flamingos turn pink?" Benjamin, 12, California

Ryan Vittetoe
Birds keeper,
Phoenix Zoo

Have you ever heard the phrase "You are what you eat"?

Flamingos take that to a new level! They are born gray and white, then turn pink as they eat their favorite foods: shrimp and algae. The food has a lot of pink colors inside, and they eat so much that it turns them pink too!



A flamingo

Do you have a question for an animal expert? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about Phoenix Zoo at phoenixzoo.org.



A bold, brilliant vision

Maya Lin has amazed the world with her creativity for more than 40 years.

As a 21-year-old architecture student with no professional experience, Maya Lin surprised the world by winning a competition to design a war memorial in the US capital.

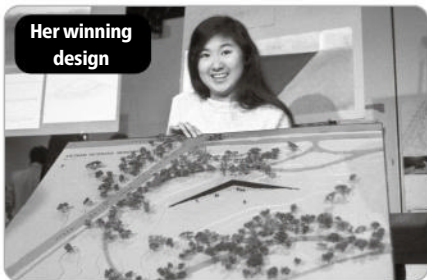


Maya Lin in 1982

Early life

Lin was born in 1959 in Athens, Ohio, to Chinese immigrant parents. From a young age, she was exposed to art. Her mother was a poet and literature professor, and her father was a ceramics

expert. In high school, Lin took university-level art classes and experimented with bronze casting. She enrolled at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1977, majoring in zoology before switching to architecture. During her senior year, in 1980, a classmate shared a poster announcing a national competition to design a memorial in Washington, DC, honoring veterans of the Vietnam War (1955–1975). Lin decided to enter.



Her winning design

A revolutionary idea

The design Lin created was stark and striking. From among more than 1,400 entries submitted anonymously, a panel of eight judges chose hers as the winner, calling it “an eloquent place where the simple meeting of earth, sky, and remembered names contains messages for all.” (For more details, see “The Vietnam Veterans Memorial,” at right.) Some people opposed the design because it looked radically different from traditional war memorials, which often were more ornate and depicted people. Today, the memorial is Washington’s most visited war monument, seen by 5 million people per year.



WOW!

Maya Lin has honorary doctorate degrees from Yale University, Harvard University, Williams College, and Smith College.

SKETCHING HER LIFE

In 2000, Maya Lin wrote a “visual and verbal sketchbook,” titled *Boundaries*, about her art and philosophy.

MAKING HISTORY

Maya Lin is the first woman to design a memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

“I try to give people a different way of looking at their surroundings. That’s art to me,” Maya Lin once said.



for architecture



The Langston Hughes Library

A career takes off

After designing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Lin quickly rose to worldwide prominence as an architect and artist. She went on to design buildings, landscapes, and additional memorials. Her other works include the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama (dedicated in 1989), and the Langston Hughes Library in Clinton, Tennessee (dedicated in 1999). Lin is also known for her sculptures. One is the Women's Table at Yale University, a stone artwork she created in 1993 to document the history of women at the college. Lin, an environmentalist, often turns to nature for inspiration and frequently uses recycled and sustainable materials in her work.



With President Barack Obama



The Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Maya Lin's most famous work, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, was dedicated on Veterans Day in 1982. It is made up of two 200-foot-long black granite walls in a V shape. Visitors experience the memorial by starting at ground level, descending below it, and ascending back up to symbolize a "wound that is closed and healing."

Etched on the walls are the names of more than 58,000 US service members, listed in chronological order by the date of their death. The polished walls allow people to see their reflection as they read the names, connecting past and present. Visitors can find the name of a loved one and create a copy by pressing paper on it and rubbing it with charcoal.

Continuing her contributions

In 1995, a documentary highlighting some of Lin's most famous works, *Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision*, won an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature. President Barack Obama presented Lin with the National Medal of Arts in 2009 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, in 2016. In 2021, Lin turned Madison Square Park in New York City into *Ghost Forest*, an art installation featuring dead trees, to highlight the effects of climate change. She released *Ghost Forest Seedlings*, a digital and print art exhibit that reveals the growth of seeds into complex root patterns, in September 2023. Lin has also been commissioned to create a sculpture for the Barack Obama Presidential Center, expected to open in Chicago, Illinois, in 2025.



CLOSE FAMILY

Humans share about 98% of our DNA with chimps, and apes are our closest living relatives.



Chimps climb down trees differently than monkeys do.

Apes gave humans flexible arms

New research shows that humans have apes to thank for their rotating shoulders and flexible elbows and wrists. Early apes developed these traits so they could safely climb down from trees. When humans evolved from apes about 6 to 7 million years ago, people got the same abilities, which lets them throw, climb, and participate in many activities.

For years, researchers who study primates (mammals including humans, apes, and monkeys) have wondered why apes have a greater range of motion in their shoulders and arms than monkeys do. A team at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire used sports analysis and statistical software to study the “upclimbing” and “downclimbing” movements of two primates: wild chimpanzees and sooty mangabeys, a small monkey that’s distantly related to chimps and humans. Mangabeys split from apes about 30 million years ago.

The team noticed that chimps (which are apes) and mangabeys upclimbed in similar ways but downclimbed differently. Downclimbing is trickier than upclimbing. The mangabeys worked their way down with their shoulders and elbows mostly

tucked close to their bodies, while the chimps supported their weight by reaching their arms over their heads. “The two had very different ranges of motions,” Mary Joy, a Dartmouth student who co-authored the study, told Live Science.

The study found that this was likely because chimpanzees have relatively bulky, heavy bodies. That means they need to use their arms to counteract gravity (the natural force that causes things to fall toward Earth) and safely navigate down. Flexible shoulders and elbows help

them “maximize use of their feet as brakes,” said Nathaniel J. Dominy, an anthropologist at Dartmouth and co-author of the study.

The team thinks apes evolved (changed very slowly over time) to have flexible joints because of their downclimbing style. However, that happened after monkeys split from apes but before humans did, which explains why monkeys don’t have the traits but humans do.

The researchers said these features would also have helped early apes gather food, hunt, and defend themselves. Now the traits enable humans to do many things, like shoot a basketball, swing on a jungle gym, and use advanced tools.



Monkeys have a smaller range of motion in their arms.

Human and ape evolution



A newly identified ape fossil from 8.7 million years ago is challenging scientific beliefs about human origins. Scientists studying fossils in what is now Turkey discovered part of a well-preserved cranium (section of the skull) in 2015. They believe it belonged to an ape species that had never been identified before, which they named *Anadoluvius turkae*. It is an early hominine (humans and all extinct ancestors that walked on two feet).

For many years, scientists believed that early ancestors of humans and apes originated in Africa. But the ape fossil from Turkey adds new evidence to the theory that these ancestors first evolved in Europe before moving to Africa 7 to 9 million years ago.



Why the yellow paint used in some art is fading

Cadmium yellow is a bright shade of paint that has been used in many famous paintings, from Vincent van Gogh's *Flowers in a Blue Vase* to Edvard Munch's *The Scream*. But the paint tends to fade and take on a chalky appearance over time. New research has revealed why.

Cadmium yellow is mostly made with the chemicals cadmium and sulfur. Scientists and art experts knew that the color was fading from some paintings by van Gogh and Munch from the 1800s. But they were surprised it was fading in more recent paintings, including some from the 1970s by Spanish artist Joan Miró.

Mar Gómez Lobón, an art expert in Spain, collected tiny specks of cadmium

yellow paint from three of Miró's 1970s paintings, as well as tiny samples of paint from his studios. She and her team studied the samples under different wavelengths of light to learn more about the paint's chemical makeup.

The researchers found that the cadmium and sulfur atoms in the samples had not mixed properly. This likely had to do with the process used to manufacture it.

That rendered the paint unstable, which allowed it to fade within a few decades.

Gómez Lobón was surprised that the issue persisted for more than a century. "You would think that the paint manufacturers would have corrected the problem," she told *The New York Times*. "This was a really high-quality paint."



Joan Miró's painting *2 + 5 = 7*



A sculpture by Spanish artist Joan Miró

KEEPING IT SAFE

Edvard Munch's famous painting *The Scream* is stored in a controlled environment to prevent its yellow paint from fading.



The arrow and its rock tip

Melting ice reveals ancient arrow

Scientists in the Jotunheimen Mountains of Norway found an arrow used by reindeer hunters about 3,000 years ago. The rare artifact dates to between 2000 and 700 BCE. It emerged from melting ice with its quartzite (a type of rock) arrowhead and feathers still in place.

The arrow was found by scientists with the Secrets of the Ice project, which studies artifacts exposed by melting glaciers. Climate change is melting the ice where it was found.

The team regularly searches the area in an effort to find objects as soon as possible after they've been revealed. Artifacts that have been preserved in ice can deteriorate quickly when they're exposed to elements like wind and rain.

The arrow, made with birch wood, is about 2.9 feet long. Although the arrowhead and feathers were well preserved, the wooden shaft was broken into three pieces, possibly by heavy ice.



A bandage that heals with light



The light strip on the bandage

Researchers from the UK and France developed a bandage that uses light to help people heal. The bandage contains a flexible coil that emits a powerful type of light called ultraviolet C. As the light flashes, it kills germs without the use of antibiotic medicines,

which can be overused and become ineffective.

The coil charges wirelessly. That eliminates the need for a disposable battery and makes the bandage easier to wear. When the dressing needs changing, the coil can be transferred to a new bandage.



Photos of the week



Flap happy

Mario Cea Sánchez took this photo of a bird in flight.



Snack time

This picture of a black skimmer with a fish was captured by Marie Read.



JACK ZHANG; NICOLAUS TREUBEN; MARIE READ; RAFAEL ARMADA; MARIO CEA SÁNCHEZ; JOSIAH LAUNSTEIN

Photos of the week



Encounter in the air

This picture was taken by Jack Zhi, who was named the 2023 Photographer of the Year.



Take a long drink

Rafael Armada snapped this shot of a sword-billed hummingbird.



Seeing green

This shot of a tanager on a leaf was taken by Nicolas Reusens.



Who, us?

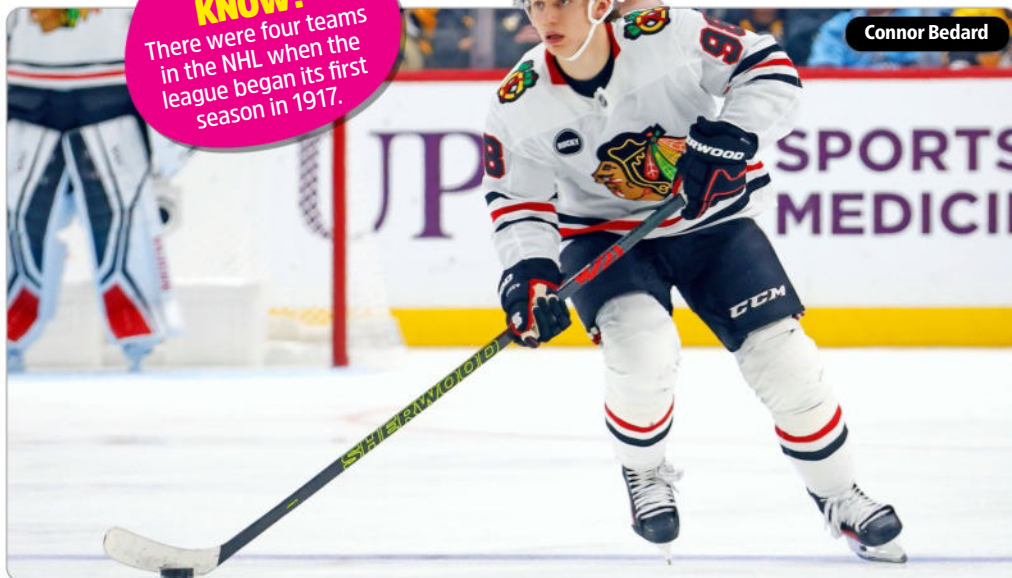
Josiah Launstein captured this photograph of two owls.



Sports

DID YOU KNOW?

There were four teams in the NHL when the league began its first season in 1917.



Connor Bedard

College hockey news



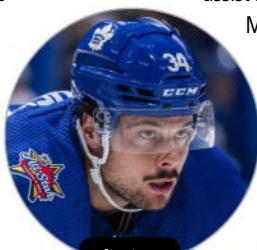
In 2024, Tennessee State University (TSU) plans to become the first historically Black college or university (HBCU) to launch a men's hockey program. TSU is working with the NHL and the Nashville Predators. The team will begin competing at the club level.

Rookie shines as NHL games begin

The 2023–2024 NHL (National Hockey League) season began on October 10. The Las Vegas Golden Knights are the reigning Stanley Cup champions, but the top teams are expected to include the Edmonton Oilers, Dallas Stars, and Carolina Hurricanes.

One of the most anticipated opening night games was between the Chicago Blackhawks and the Pittsburgh Penguins. It was the NHL debut of Blackhawks center Connor Bedard, age 18. He was the number one pick in the 2023 NHL Draft. The Blackhawks won the game, 4–2, and Bedard recorded an assist. The next day, the Blackhawks played the Boston Bruins. Just over five minutes

into the game, Bedard scored his first NHL goal, which was his team's only goal in a 3–1 loss. In Chicago's third game, Bedard racked up another assist as the Blackhawks fell to the Montreal Canadiens, 3–2.



Austin Matthews

Three Pittsburgh Penguins made history during that first game against the Blackhawks. Sidney Crosby, Kris Letang, and Evgeni Malkin began their 18th season playing together and became the longest-tenured trio of teammates in North American sports history. They have won three Stanley Cup titles together. Before starting the season, the three had been tied for the record with former New York Yankees teammates Derek Jeter,

Jorge Posada, and Mariano Rivera, who played baseball together for 17 seasons.

Auston Matthews, a Toronto Maple Leafs star, got off to an impressive start this season. In his team's first game, a 6–5 win over the Montreal Canadiens on October 11, he scored three goals, which is known as a hat trick. Two of his goals came during the last five minutes of the third period, when his team was trailing. He tied the score, and the game ended up going to overtime. It was eventually decided by a shootout, with his teammate Mitchell Marner scoring the winning goal. Matthews had another hat trick in the Maple Leafs' second game, a 7–4 win over the Minnesota Wild on October 14. He is only the second NHL player since the 1917–1918 season to have two hat tricks in the first two games of a season.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

On October 15, the New York Jets faced the undefeated Philadelphia Eagles and beat them, 20–14. It was the Jets' first win over the Eagles in 13 meetings. During the game, the Jets defense intercepted Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts three times.

In another upset that day, the Cleveland Browns beat the San Francisco 49ers, 19–17. It was the 49ers' first loss of the season.



Kelly Cheng, left, and Sara Hughes

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

Americans Kelly Cheng and Sara Hughes won the Beach Volleyball World Championships on October 15. They are the first US women's team to win the title since 2009.

SKI JUMPING

The 2023 USA Nordic Ski Jumping National Championships ended on October 11. Annika Belshaw won the women's 100-meter and 128-meter events, while her brother, Erik, did the same on the men's side.



SOCCER STAR

The NWSL player with the most regular-season goals this year was the Portland Thorns' Sophia Smith, who had 11.



The San Diego Wave celebrating on October 14

Exciting end to NWSL regular season

On October 15, the final games of the 2023 NWSL (National Women's Soccer League) regular season took place. It was called Decision Day, and the results determined four of the six teams that would make the playoffs.

Before the final games were played, the San Diego Wave and the Portland Thorns, the top two teams, had clinched postseason spots. The San Diego Wave won their Decision Day game and finished with the best record, which earned them the 2023 NWSL Shield for the first time.

One of the four other playoff spots went to the OL Reign, who beat the Chicago Red Stars, 3–0. Retiring OL Reign star Megan Rapinoe scored two goals. The Washington Spirit entered Decision Day positioned to make the playoffs, but a 1–0 loss to the North Carolina Courage

brought their season to an end. Early on, the Spirit's star player Trinity Rodman was handed a red card for a foul and had to leave the game. The Courage, however, will move on.

The final playoff spots went to Angel City FC, who upset the Thorns, 5–1, and the New Jersey/New York Gotham FC, whose match against the Kansas City Current ended in a 2–2 tie. Gotham, Angel City, and the Orlando Pride all finished the season with 31 points (teams earn points for wins and ties), so the two teams with the highest goal differential (total goals scored on other teams minus goals they gave up) advanced.

The Reign and Angel City were set to play on October 20, while Gotham will face the Courage on October 22. The Wave and the Thorns will enter the playoffs in the semifinal round.



COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Penny Beddow-Wolf**

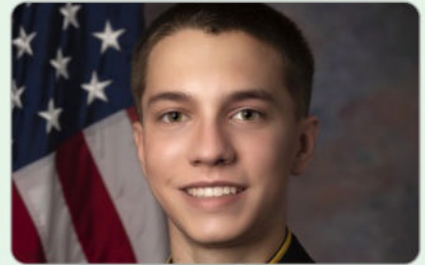
Organization: **Fort Wayne Coventry Taekwondo**

"Mrs. Beddow teaches students of all ages and abilities. She encourages kids to work through challenges and never give up. Her positive attitude and love of taekwondo is contagious and makes students look forward to class. She and her team teach hard work, respect, patience, consistency, and kindness, which are skills students will use forever. We've developed confidence because of her and are thankful for her." Asher, 12, and Fisher, 8, Indiana



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to hello@theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Ian Dinmore

AGE: 21 SPORT: GYMNASTICS

TEAM: US NAVAL ACADEMY

Early start When I was 4, I was doing cartwheels at home, hit my head on a table, and got stitches. After that, my parents decided that I should go someplace that was padded. That's how I got my start in gymnastics. I played a lot of sports over the years, and gymnastics never gets old—there's always a new challenge to go for.

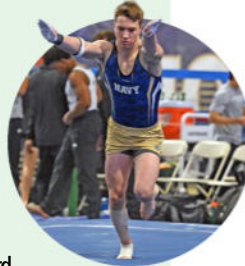
Good fit When I thought about what I wanted from a college, I appreciated the way the Naval Academy challenges its students in every area, not just sports or academics. I like the high standard we hold ourselves to.

Main events I specialize in the pommel horse, and I'm working on the vault. I came in as an all-arounder, but I wasn't competing very much. I realized I had too much on my plate, so I went down to the two events I enjoyed the most. It's paid off.

Big role I was elected captain for this year, when I'm a senior. I'm very proud that my teammates trusted my ability to lead and that they recognize how I have grown since being a freshman.

Winning mindset The only way to handle failure is to grow from it and never make the same mistake twice. I keep a journal of my workouts, corrections I've gotten, and also how I was feeling and what went wrong. If you're going to mess up again, at least do it trying something different. Eventually you'll find what works. Doing a great routine is the greatest feeling in the world.

Wise words Good sailors aren't made on smooth seas. And it's the same for gymnastics.





FUN FACT

The National Museum of African American History and Culture has costumes from the 1974 version of *The Wiz* in its collection.



The Wiz musical tours the US

A revival of a show based on *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* is making stops across the country before heading to Broadway.

Next March, *The Wiz*, an award-winning musical based on the book *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum, will open on Broadway. The show is currently on a 13-city US tour, which began in Baltimore, Maryland, where the original production debuted in 1974.

The original Broadway production of *The Wiz* won seven Tonys (a top theater award) in 1975, including one for Best Musical. A *Wiz* movie came out in 1978. Like the beloved film *The Wizard of Oz* from 1939, *The*

Wiz is about Dorothy, a girl from Kansas who must find her way home from a magical land. However, the show is based in Black and African culture, stars Black actors, and includes soul, gospel, and funk music. The current stage production is considered an “entirely reimagined revival” and contains material that was not in the original *Wiz*.



Nichelle Lewis

Nichelle Lewis, who plays Dorothy, told *The Week Junior* that *The Wiz* gives Black people “a way of appreciating where we come from and shows others they can appreciate where they come from as well, even if

they’re not a person of color.” Lewis began singing at age 9 and later performed in show choirs and musical theater. As an adult, she was a contestant on *American Idol*. She was invited to audition for *The Wiz* after the show’s casting agents saw her singing the musical’s song “Home” in a video she posted on TikTok.

Lewis said she hopes her version of Dorothy is relatable, especially to young people. Like her character, she said she sometimes felt lost when she was growing up. “As a young person, you’re finding yourself and who your friends are,” she told *The Week Junior*. “I feel like I needed a show like this at the time.”

More Oz adaptations

The Muppets' Wizard of Oz

In this funny TV movie from 2005, Muppets play the characters that Dorothy meets in Oz. Kermit is the Scarecrow, and Miss Piggy (right) is the Wicked Witch of the West.



Oz the Great and Powerful

This 2013 fantasy tells the story of a magician from Kansas who is transported to Oz in a hot air balloon. He meets three witches who live there and eventually becomes the powerful Wizard.



Wicked

The relationship between witches Elphaba and Glinda is explored in this story, which began as a 1995 book and became a hit Broadway show. The first part of a *Wicked* film will be released in 2024.





Behind the scenes of *The American Buffalo*

DID YOU KNOW?

The American bison was named the national mammal of the US in 2016.

PBS series about American history

A new two-part PBS documentary, *The American Buffalo*, explores the long and special relationship between Native American tribes and buffalo in the Great Plains region of the US. The series was directed by renowned documentary filmmaker Ken Burns.

The Great Plains covers parts of 10 states and stretches from Montana to Texas. Over thousands of years, it was home to 600 generations of Indigenous peoples (the first people to inhabit a place), such as the Cheyenne and Lakota tribes. They shared the land with buffalo, the largest land animals in the western hemisphere. Today, the animals are known as bison.

Indigenous peoples relied on buffalo for food and warmth, but they also viewed the animals as sacred. *The American Buffalo* tells the story of the Native tribes' fight to save the buffalo from

extinction as European settlers and changes in the climate significantly reduced its population. The series is narrated by Burns and features interviews with historians as well as Native Americans.

Burns' documentaries usually explore historical subjects through the lens of people.

Some topics he has covered are baseball, jazz, and the US Civil War. He told *The Week Junior* his team had been thinking about doing a biography of an animal for decades. "We knew that telling the story of the buffalo would take us into all sorts of corners of American history,"

he said. He added that it would also "shine a light on Native people." He hopes viewers come to see that buffalo symbolize the US as much as the bald eagle does.

Burns added that as climate change threatens the lives of animals all over the world, "our story of preserving a major mammal is really important."



Ken Burns



READER RECOMMENDS



The Dragon Prince: Mystery of Aaravos (Netflix)

"This animated fantasy series was originally just called *The Dragon Prince*. It is made by a creator of *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. In the story, a group of young humans and elves take the dragon prince, Zym, back home to a world called Xadia to see his mother and stop a long war between humans and Xadians. They are fighting an evil Startouch Elf who is trying to get all the power and rule all of Xadia. I like how funny the story is, plus I think it is cool that they have LGBTQ relationships and diverse characters. There are already five seasons to watch and more coming." Collin, 10, California

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.



THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST



Peter & the Wolf (Max)

In Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev's famous orchestral composition *Peter and the Wolf*, a children's story is told through the sounds of various instruments. For this new short film, Irish rocker Gavin Friday provided the music and illustrations by U2's Bono inspired the animation.



Explorer: Lake of Fire (Disney+) (Hulu)

Follow a team of adventurers and scientists in this new documentary as they battle extreme conditions while trying to climb an unexplored volcano. The volcano was found through satellite imagery in 2018, and their mission is to uncover the science behind its eruptions.



Curses! (Apple TV+)

This new spooky series features computer-generated and stop-motion animation. It follows the Vanderhoven family, who used to be typical until a curse turned their dad to stone. To reverse it, the mom and kids set out to return ancient artifacts stolen by their ancestor.



On screen



FUN FACT

When Sonic was being designed, creator Naoto Oshima called him Mr. Needlemouse.

Sonic Superstars

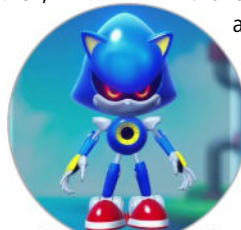
Go on an adventure with Sonic

Sonic Superstars is a new platform adventure game. It is out now for the Nintendo Switch, PlayStation platforms, Xbox systems, and PC.

Sonic, a wise-cracking, speedy blue hedgehog, was first introduced to gamers in 1991 through the Sega Genesis system. Since then, Sonic and his pals have starred in more than 100 games in genres that include 3D adventure, role-playing, sports, and racing. Sonic Superstars is designed to look and feel like the original side-scrolling 2D games for the Sega Genesis, with some modern twists. Like the originals, Sonic goes on an adventure through colorful islands and wild cities as he tries to stop the evil Dr. Eggman. In this game, Sonic is trying to save the gorgeous Northstar Islands.

The new release has four playable characters: Sonic plus his pals Tails, Knuckles, and Amy Rose. Superstars also has seven different Chaos Emeralds, which are objects that give the characters powers. They include Vision, which allows players to see invisible rings and platforms, and Bullet, which turns a player into an explosive fireball. The extra firepower is key because Dr. Eggman isn't the only villain. He has brought along evildoers such as Fang the Bounty Hunter and Trip, a mysterious robot.

If an adult sees Superstars, they may think they've traveled back in time. However, the game's many new features make it something that newer players will love, too. In the game's multiplayer battle mode, up to four people can play at a time, so it's a great opportunity to compete with longtime Sonic fans.



Battle Mode Sonic



PODCAST OF THE WEEK

FROZEN: FORCES OF NATURE

Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music

This new series celebrates the 10th anniversary of *Frozen*. It is Disney's first podcast based on one of its movies. The story is set after the events of the film *Frozen 2* and follows sisters Anna and Elsa as they venture into the Enchanted Forest to stop a mysterious force that is threatening Arendelle.



VIDEO OF THE WEEK



ISS LIVE FEED

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-ISSLive

Check out the view from the International Space Station (ISS) on this livestream. You'll be able to see Earth from above and witness events such as sunrises, sunsets, and lightning strikes. You can also track the location of the ISS and calculate when it will be visible in your area.



WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

ORIGAMI GUIDE

origami.guide

The ancient Japanese art of folding paper into shapes is called origami. This website has step-by-step guides for how to make pieces suited to different skill levels. You'll learn about basic folding techniques and find instructions for chickens, crowns, flowers, and other fun designs.





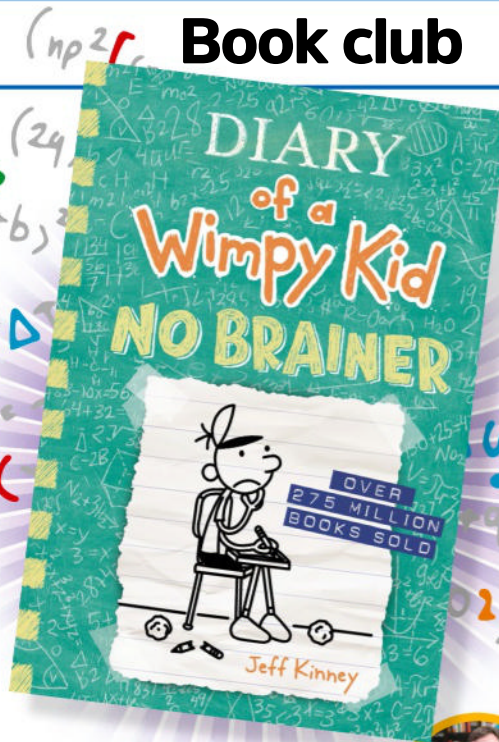
BOOK OF THE WEEK

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: No Brainer

By Jeff Kinney

(Amulet Books)

The 18th book in the best-selling series takes place at Greg and Rowley's middle school. Because of budget cuts, the building is falling apart and there's no money for learning supplies. Even most of the library books are gone because a parent requested that they be banned. A new principal hopes to get the school on track, but his plans quickly backfire. To earn money, the school rents out some of the classrooms to local businesses. As a result, Greg can see his mom attending yoga class in a nearby classroom. Unless the students perform well on a standardized test, the school will close. If that happens, half of the students will go to a prep school with a big budget and the rest, including Greg, will end up in a worse school. On the day of the test, bees invade the classrooms. Will the distraction spell the end of Greg's school for good? The chapters about the prizes at a school event and the cafeteria's famous fudge dogs are especially funny. As you're reading, look carefully at the drawings. They are packed with details that author and illustrator Jeff Kinney is known for.



ASK THE AUTHOR

Jeff Kinney

We spoke to the author of the Book of the Week.

Where did you get the idea for this book?

After several books where the story took place outside school, I wanted to write a funny one set inside Greg's middle school.



How does this book differ from previous ones?

The humor in this book is more unrealistic and exaggerated than any of the others in the series. I took big swings on humor!

Did you enjoy school?

I did. Mostly. There were definitely parts I didn't like. The Square Dancing unit in gym was torture.

What's your advice if kids feel stressed?

Let the adults around you know. It's so important to reach out for help.

Halloween costume?

I like Halloween, but I feel uncomfortable putting on a costume! If I wear something, I may go as a gravedigger.



4 books with stories about friendships

Long-distance pals and school besties share big moments together.



Bob

By Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead, illustrated by Nicholas Gannon

(Square Fish)

Lily hasn't seen Bob, a friendly creature who looks like a zombie in a chicken suit, since she last visited her grandmother in Australia five years ago. They grow closer as they look for clues about where Bob came from and how to return him to where he belongs. Ages 8–12



Falling Short

By Ernesto Cisneros

(Quill Tree Books)

In sixth grade, Marco and Isaac may finally be on the same basketball team. While Isaac is a star player, Marco is not very good at sports. But he wants to make the team to impress his dad. Isaac has an idea that will give Marco a chance of earning a spot. Will it work? Ages 8–12



The Season of Styx Malone

By Kekla Magoon

(Yearling)

Brothers Caleb and Bobby quickly become friends with Styx, a new neighbor. However, Styx isn't a good influence, and the things he encourages the brothers to do test their friendships with others and their relationship with each other. This story is a Coretta Scott King Honor book. Ages 10 and up



You Go First

By Erin Entrada Kelly

(Greenwillow Books)

Charlotte and Ben live thousands of miles apart but become friends through an online Scrabble game. They help each other deal with challenges in their lives, ranging from a parent's illness to bullying. The heartfelt chapters alternate between the two main characters. Ages 8–12



READER RECOMMENDS

Endling By Katherine Applegate

"Endling is the best book ever! It's about Byx, who is a dairne, which is a species that looks like a walking, talking dog. Her pack is killed by soldiers, and later she is captured by a human named Khara, who is just trying to protect her. Byx and Khara and other friends make it their mission to find more dairnes. There are three books in the series. I love it, and I think you would too!" Sophia, 10, New Jersey

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.

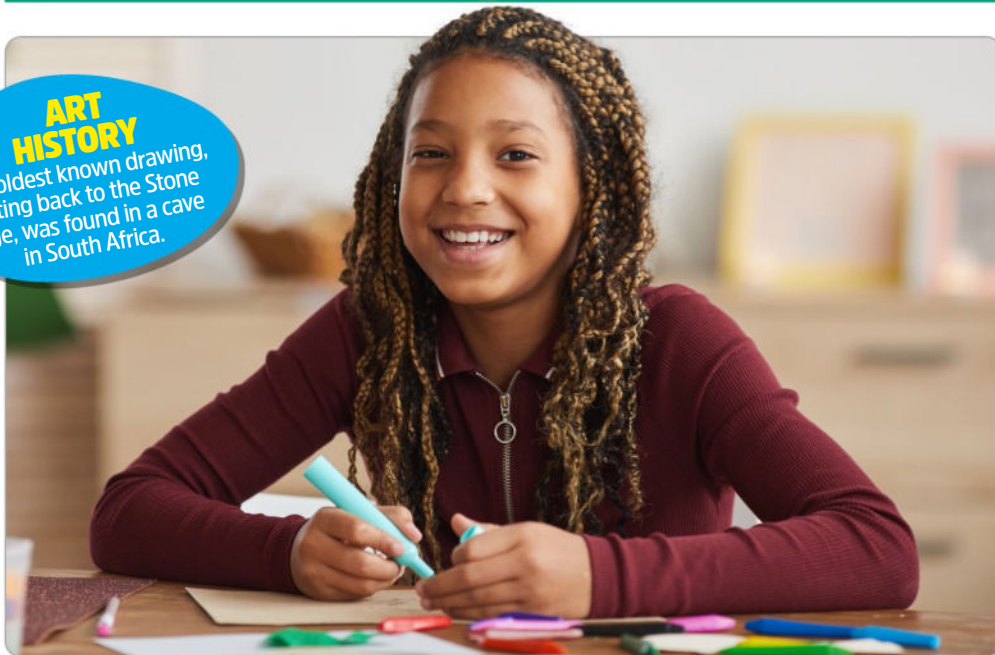




How to...

ART HISTORY

The oldest known drawing, dating back to the Stone Age, was found in a cave in South Africa.



Improve your drawing skills

A few creative tips can give your art a boost.

Whether you like to doodle in a notebook or sketch on a giant pad, drawing is a great way to express yourself and share your creativity with others. Drawing is also an easy hobby to pursue because you need only simple supplies. Check out these tips to make your drawing skills stronger. And consider demonstrating your talent by entering our Winter Cover Contest! Find out more on the next page.

Gather supplies

One of the best parts about drawing is that you can get started right away with paper and pencils you already have. You might also enjoy drawing in a sketchbook, which is a notebook with special drawing paper. This can help you easily look back at your work and see your progress. You might also want to experiment with other drawing materials, like colored or charcoal pencils, markers, or pastels.

Pick your subject

When thinking about what to draw, choose something you feel excited about capturing on paper. You could draw a beautiful tree or go to a local park and sketch the landscape. Items around your home, like a bowl of fruit or a favorite toy, can also be great subjects. If you can't find exactly what you're looking for, look for inspiration online and print out what you'd like to draw.

Begin with basic shapes

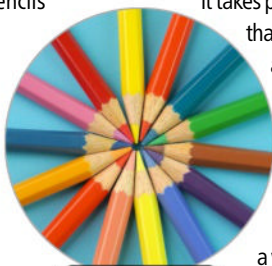
When you start drawing, think of your subject in terms of simple shapes. For example, many animals are made up of a long oval body, a round head, and thin rectangular legs. Drawing these shapes can be easier than trying to draw the animal or object all at once. After you finish the basic shape, you can continue to add more details. When you're done, erase any lines from the original shapes that you no longer need.

Practice often

It takes practice to get really good at drawing. If that's something you aspire to, try to work on it as often as you can. Put a small sketchbook in your backpack so you can draw when you have free time, like when you're waiting for an activity to start. You could even give yourself mini challenges. For example, you can draw the same object for a week and see how much you improve.

Seek out more resources

You can improve your drawing by practicing on your own, but you can also get better with help. Ask a librarian to help you search for step-by-step drawing books at your local or school library. You can also check out tutorials at sites like drawingguides.com and easydrawingguides.com. Museums and art studios in your area may also offer drawing classes. Ask an art teacher at school to point you in the right direction.



Simple tools
are all you need.

Meet our drawing contest judges

These awesome illustrators will be judging entries in *The Week Junior's* Winter Cover Contest (see page at right).

Jeff Kinney

The latest book in the best-selling *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series is

featured in this issue's Book Club column (p23). Jeff Kinney wrote the books based on his own childhood and was one of the first author-illustrators to make books written in journal format popular.



Sarah Sax

This author-illustrator's graphic novel *Picture Day* features

her signature comic-like style with bright colors and expressive drawings. Sarah Sax is also passionate about teaching kids to harness their creativity. She has worked at a children's museum and helped make educational video games.



Betty C. Tang

For her *Parachute Kids* graphic novel, Betty C. Tang used a format that's similar to an animated movie, drawing on her experience working at Disney TV and Dreamworks Animation. Her comic-style drawings often break out of the traditional square-box format commonly seen in graphic novels.



GETTY IMAGES (2); FLIP WOLAK; ELLE DARCY; COURTESY OF BETTY TANG

Enter our Winter Cover Contest!

How to enter

1. Remove this page and create a cover design. Submissions will be judged on creativity, originality, and how well they reflect the winter theme and the mission of *The Week Junior*. Try to picture your artwork on our cover! Be sure it's in color, and indicate the title of your drawing at the bottom of the page. If you need another form to complete your design, you can print one out at theweekjunior.com/activities.
2. When you're finished, a parent/guardian should go to theweekjunior.com/activities to print, fill out, and sign the consent form. To officially enter, the consent form and a digital image of your artwork should be emailed to covercontest@theweekjunior.com.
3. The deadline to apply is November 8. Finalists will be notified on or about November 17. Full contest rules can be found at theweekjunior.com/covercontestrules.

The judges

The Winter Cover Contest judges are award-winning author/illustrators Jeff Kinney, Sarah Sax, and Betty C. Tang, along with *The Week Junior*'s Editor-in-Chief Andrea Barbalich and Creative Director Dean Abatemarco.

The prize

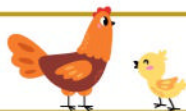
The winning entry will be featured on the front cover of an upcoming issue.



Allow for our cover headline to go here.

↑ Our mailing label will go in the lower left corner, so try not to draw anything too important in this space.

Applicant name: _____ Age: _____ State: _____
Parent/guardian name: _____ Parent/guardian email: _____
Title of drawing: _____



Puzzles



Word ladder

To change the word WOLF into the word HOWL, use each clue to fill in a word that is only one letter different from the word before it. If you get stuck, try solving from the bottom up.



Sport that has a miniature version

W O L F

Very valuable metal

Tattled

Fee paid for using a highway or crossing a bridge

Wrench or pliers, for example

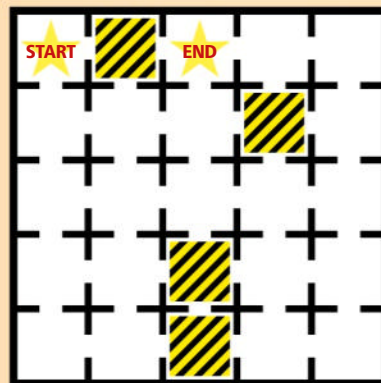
Deceive

Birds like chickens and turkeys

H O W L

DO NOT ENTER

Draw one continuous path from START to END that goes through every box except the ones containing obstacles. Your path may not cross itself, and there is only one solution.



STEPPING STONES

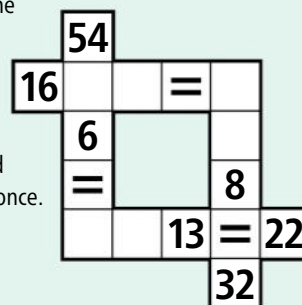
Each figure hides a seven-letter word associated with electricity. To find each one, start anywhere and move in an unbroken path through letters that share a border (no jumping!), using each letter once. (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)



ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

Crossmath

Fill each empty box with a number or a mathematical symbol (+, -, ×, or ÷) to complete the equations across and down. A symbol can be used more than once.



Spot the difference

These two pictures of origami butterflies appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





No cavities here!

Mini museum for sparkling teeth

A dentist has set the world record for the largest toothpaste collection. Val Kolpakov started amassing the tubes 22 years ago. He now owns 2,037 of them and has created a "mini museum" at his dental office in Georgia. The collection includes toothpaste made by the Crayola crayon company, several varieties from other countries, and uncommon flavors such as chocolate, bamboo, wasabi, and "alien blood." Kolpakov values his collection at more than \$30,000. "It's lots of fun collecting, and I'm always looking for new toothpastes that come out," Kolpakov said. "I will keep going."



Jan Zackl's fantasy flight

The skydiver and the unicorn

"I'm coming for ya!" shouted skydiver Jan Zackl as he parachuted toward an inflatable unicorn. He landed perfectly on the unicorn's back, and together they slid across a field on a slip-n-slide runway. Zackl performed the feat at a skydiving festival in the UK. All the experts who took part were experienced skydivers who had performed at least 200 jumps, but only Zackl managed to land successfully on the unicorn. It required great skill in canopy piloting—the sport of flying very small parachutes that move quickly. Landing is "the fun part" of a dive, Zackl said.



It was a great day for a dip.

A cheese-tastic world record

To mark National Guacamole Day, the Doritos chip brand pulled off a very cheesy stunt in Cheddar Gorge, England. Using a helicopter, a giant tortilla chip, and a bowl of melted cheese, the company successfully broke the record for the "highest cheese pull." In a pot, 265 pounds of cheddar and mozzarella were melted to create the perfect level of stretchiness. The helicopter dipped the 4-foot-wide tortilla chip, then managed to stretch the cheese 49 feet without the string breaking. "This is nacho everyday stunt," one organizer said.

Real or fake?



Did Tank fill up and go?

A very slow escape artist

Tank the tortoise has been up to some turtle tricks. He recently returned home after his third escape from a veterinarian's office in Pennsylvania. "He just decided he was going to high-tail it and go on an adventure," said vet technician Megan McFarland. She asked locals to look out for "a large boulder eating in your garden" but not to be alarmed because "he's actually very sweet." The wily tortoise traveled about two miles before he was found. Is this story real, or is it artifi-shell?*

*Real! The veterinary staff are amused by Tank's adventures but concerned for his well-being as the weather turns cold. They are planning to put a GPS tracker on him so he can be found quickly if he escapes from his pen again.



Your turn

Editor's note

At *The Week Junior*, we love to highlight children who are making a difference in the world—kids like Inaya, shown at right. She raised money to help people after devastating wildfires in Hawaii and a severe earthquake in Morocco. Right now, the war in the Middle East is on the minds of many of our readers. The situation is serious, and it can be difficult to know how each of us as individuals can help. One thing everyone can do is reach out to others who are upset and share kind words. That simple gesture can be very powerful! Many nonprofit organizations are also accepting donations to support their humanitarian work in the region, and you could ask an adult to help you identify one that is meaningful to you and your family. If you raise money to donate, I would love to hear about it. Please write to me anytime at hello@theweekjunior.com.



Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief



Inaya, 9, Washington

Raising money for Maui

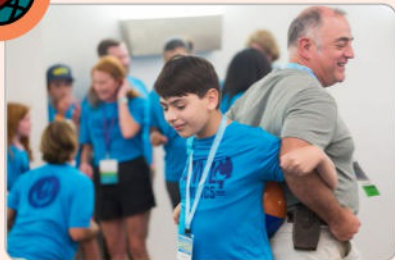
“When I first heard about the Maui wildfires, I had been selected to participate in a children’s business fair in Kenmore, Washington. I decided to give half the money made there to the Maui Food Bank. I chose the food bank because people who have lost homes need food, and I wanted

them to have strength to rebuild their lives. I volunteer regularly at food kitchens around the Seattle area and have seen food provide comfort to people who are trying to get their lives back. Now I am working to raise more money for the earthquake in Morocco.”

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you’re up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.

JOKE OF THE WEEK
Who’s orange and helps you get to school safely?
The crossing gourd

CHARITY OF THE WEEK



National Stuttering Association

This organization aims to create a more accepting and understanding world for people who stutter. Through its local chapters located across the US, it runs support groups for adults and children, awards college scholarships to students who stutter, and raises awareness about the challenges of stuttering in schools and communities. Find out more at westutter.org.



What makes your grandparents special?

Simon—who is 12 years old and from California—said his grandfather was important to him because they shared the same interests: languages and art. Simon’s favorite memory of his grandfather is talking to him on the phone in Czech. To celebrate your grandparent or any special older person, go to kidstheweekjunior.com/activities to print out a form (like the one at right). Fill it out, then have an adult email it to us at hello@theweekjunior.com. We’ll feature some of the responses in future issues.

Why my grandparents are important to me

Grandparents Day is coming up on September 10, 2023. This is a day when people of different generations, the grandparents and their grandchildren, are encouraged to connect. We invite you to use this form to write about your thoughts about one of your grandparents—and any special older people in your life. You can share this form with them. They may enjoy knowing what you have to say! We would also love to read what you write and use your artwork. To keep your thoughts and drawings safe, we will email your form to hello@theweekjunior.com. (Status forms can be found at theweekjunior.com/activities.)

First name: Simon Age: 12 State: California

In honor of Grandparents Day, explain why your grandparents are important to you. (Remember: Grandparents are special! Like languages and art. He always was very funny! I am so lucky to be talking with him. Who else is a refugee from Czechoslovakia?)

If you could describe your grandparents in three words, which words would you choose? Funny, smart, artistic

What is your favorite memory of being with your grandparents? My favorite memory of Grandfather Frank is that we were talking on the phone in Czech.

Draw a picture of you with your grandparents.

us on the phone! (I was 3 and had long hair at the time)

Dobry Den!

* Hello!

* How are you?

By submitting this form, you give The Week Junior consent to use your response and art. Get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

THE WEEK
Junior

IT'S YOUR TURN

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.



YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Have an adult email them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you would like us to know about what's happening in the photo.



"The green goddess pasta salad was awesome!" Will, 9, Minnesota

"I thought it was so cool to see that one of the world's biggest cats is a Maine coon because I have one myself!" Lyla, 12, Iowa



"I brought *The Week Junior* to my sister's softball game so I wouldn't get bored. I was also practicing my gymnastics!" Shea, 9, Maryland

Statement of ownership

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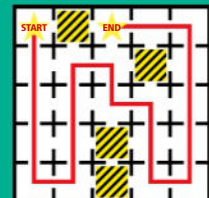
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G. Copies Not Distributed	0	0
H. Total	102,031	101,016
I. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	99.70%	98.79%



Puzzle answers (from page 26)

Word ladder

w o l f
g o l d
t o o l
f o o l
h o w l



Stepping stones voltage, charger

$$\begin{array}{r} 54 \\ 16 \div 4 = 4 \\ 6 \quad \times \\ = \quad 8 \\ 9 + 13 = 22 \\ 32 \end{array}$$



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 a) 128 "Grazer" 2 a) Bees 3 Ken Burns 4 b) Joan Miró 5 False. It is to protect breeding sea lions. 6 Unicorn 7 a) 2013 8 True 9 b) San Diego Wave 10 True 11 c) Chaos Emeralds 12 19.31 seconds 13 True 14 Invasive species 15 c) Minnesota

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 Which bear was the winner of this year's Fat Bear Week contest?

- a) 128 "Grazer" b) 32 "Chunk"
c) 806 "Spring Cub"

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: No Brainer*, what insects invade school on the day of a big test?

- a) Bees b) Ants c) Mosquitoes

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

3 Who directed the new documentary for PBS called *The American Buffalo*?

4 Scientists recently analyzed cadmium yellow in paintings from the 1970s that were created by which artist?

- a) Pablo Picasso b) Joan Miró c) Salvador Dalí

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

5 True or false? San Diego, California, is closing visitor access to seaside areas to protect breeding sea turtles.

True ☐ False ☐

6 Skydiver Jan Zackl recently landed on the back of what inflatable creature?

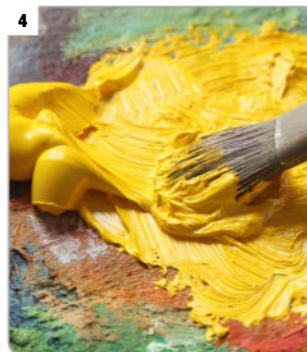
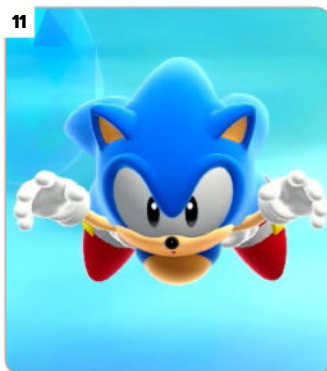
7 In what year did the European Space Agency's Gaia space telescope launch?

- a) 2013 b) 2016 c) 2019

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 True or false? Maya Lin was 21 years old when she won a competition to design the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

True ☐ False ☐



9 Which team had the best regular season record in the National Women's Soccer League this year?

- a) Portland Thorns b) San Diego Wave

c) OL Reign

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

10 True or false? Apes developed flexible wrists and elbows and rotating shoulders to climb down trees.

True ☐ False ☐

11 In the video game Sonic Superstars, what objects give special powers?

- a) Energy Diamonds

b) Light Rubies

c) Chaos Emeralds

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 What is sprinter Noah Lyles' personal best time in the 200-meter race?

13 True or false? The original 1974 Broadway production of *The Wiz* won seven Tony Awards.

True ☐ False ☐

14 What is the name for an animal or plant that is introduced to a new environment and has a negative impact?

15 A new record for the world's heaviest pumpkin was set by a giant gourd grown in which US state?

- a) Montana b) Missouri c) Minnesota

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.

THE WEEK Junior

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